



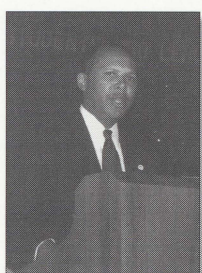
On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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October 22, 1997
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'Focus on Seniors' is theme of Enrichment Day '97

Enrichment Day '97, which carried the theme "Focus on Seniors: Who are they? What becomes of them? How can we better prepare them?" featured presentations whose focus returned time and again to the ultimate goal of every college and university—preparing its graduating seniors for a successful entry into the career world or to further their education.

The October 7 event, which took place in the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center, included a keynote address by Dr. Antoine Garibaldi, provost and chief academic officer of Howard University. The main focus of Garibaldi's presentation was the innovative programs for high school students initiated by Xavier University, New Orleans, La., that help them become better prepared to succeed



Dr. Antoine Garibaldi

in college, Xavier is one of 102 historically African American colleges and universities in the United States. Between 1982 and 1986, Garibaldi served as vice president for academic affairs, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, chair of the Education Department, and professor of education.

By the late 1970s, said Garibaldi, Xavier had experienced a slump in the number of students entering science majors. Faculty members held a meeting to address this concern, and one of the conclusions of the group was that more students were not majoring in science because they were not receiving an adequate background in science or math at the high school level.

As a result, Xavier worked with local high schools to change their curricula. The university also started a Summer Science Academy



Tipper Gore, wife of Vice-President Al Gore, is shown at Gallaudet where she was interviewed by NBC's "Today Show" on October 6 to promote National Depression Screening Day on October 9. Gallaudet is one of thousands of sites across the country that participate in this project every year. Mrs. Gore is President Clinton's mental health advisor and is the spokesperson for the project. She is shown after the interview posing for photographs. Pictured (from left) are students Joe Josselyn, Angela Campion, Dyan Kovacs, Suzette Aguayo, and Lucinda Baugh, Mrs. Gore, President Jordan, and students Neshmayda Aguayo, Melissa Yingst, Therese Röllven, Emilie Butler, and Chad Entinger.

that helped prepare high school students for college courses in math, biology, and chemistry. There was also a program that gave students a strong background in the humanities and a course to improve critical thinking.

Today, 52 percent of the students in Xavier's College of Arts

and Sciences are majoring in math and science. Even more impressive statistics reveal that biology majors at the university have risen from 42 students in the late 1970s to approximately 1,000 today; the 30 chemistry majors two decades ago have swelled to 250 now. Perhaps

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Elephants stampede Donkeys



By Mike Kaika

Congressional Republicans soundly defeated the Democrats 68 to 44 October 8 in the Gallaudet Field House at the Eighth Gallaudet University Congressional Basketball Classic. The series is now tied at four wins for each team.

This year's Classic was sponsored by the National Basketball Association, Washington Wizards, COMSAT Corporation, and, for the first time, the Milwaukee Bucks.

The game took place before an estimated 1,600 fans. The good turnout drew congressional aides, corporate and foundation leaders, honored guests, and friends of the University including Senator Herbert Kohl (D-Wisc.), owner of the Milwaukee Bucks. The Classic's first media sponsor, *The Hill*, was represented by another first-time visitor, Martin Tolchin, publisher and editor-in-chief.

The Republicans' celebrity coach was Bob Lanier, NBA All-Star and a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame. Despite their reputation for being conservative in the House, Lanier coaxed the Fighting Elephants to play aggressively on the court. Mike Oxley



The Fighting Elephants, joined by President Jordan, are all smiles as they hold their trophy high after defeating the Dunkin' Donkeys in a hard-fought match. Inset: Mascots for the Fighting Elephants, 'Bango' of the Milwaukee Bucks, and the Dunkin' Donkeys help raise spirits on campus before the game.

(R-Ohio), captain of the Fighting Elephants, said he was pleased with the way his squad played and with Lanier's coaching.

The Democrats' celebrity coach, Mike Glenn, another former NBA player, pushed the Dunkin' Donkeys into high gear in the first quarter, giving them a 20 to 17 point lead. David Bonior (Mich.), captain of the Democrats, said he was excited with the way his team played the first quarter and looked forward to another win. But from the second quarter on, the Donkeys faded and could only muster 24 points for the rest of the game.

It was a great game and both parties played hard and enjoyed the excitement the fans generated.

Leading scorer for the Dem-

ocrats was Ron Kind (Wisc.), who pumped in 14 points and was voted Most Valuable Player for the Dunkin' Donkeys. MVP for the Republicans was John Thune (S.D.), who scored nine points and played great defense. Leading scores for the Fighting Elephants were Jon Christensen (Ind.), Jay Dickey (Ariz.), and Kenny Hulshof (Mo.), all of whom scored 10 points.

After the game, Gallaudet President I. King Jordan presented the Classic trophy to Oxley and the MVP awards to Kind and Thune.

During halftime, a spectacular performance by the Columbia Union College "Acro-Airs" tumbling and acrobatic team held the audience spellbound. "Their performance was awesome. It was like watching Fourth of July fireworks without the noise," said one fan.

Milwaukee Bucks mascot 'Bango,' the Gallaudet cheerleaders, the Washington Wizards dance team, and the elephant and donkey mascots got the crowd pumped up with enthusiasm and spirit. The elephant mascot was worn by Karl Ewan of the Kappa Gamma Fraternity and the donkey mascot was worn by Craig Kuhn of the Alpha Sigma Pi Fraternity.

The winners in the raffle drawing for the two authentic NBA/WNBA jerseys were Dr. Robert (Skip) Williams, a professor in the Psychology Department, who won the Rebecca Lobo jersey, and Mary Anne Pugin (MAP), who won the Scottie Pippen jersey. (An interesting note about MAP's ticket: she selected ticket number 0171 because '71 represents the year she graduated from Gallaudet.) The sale of raffle tickets and the

sealed bid auction for the seven jerseys raised more than \$3,500.

The National Anthem was sung by Republican Congressmen who call themselves The Capitol Four—Hulshof, Thune, Joseph Pitts (Pa.), and Mike Pappas (N.J.). They were accompanied by Gallaudet students under the direction of Andre Pellerin, who signed the National Anthem—Joanna Brand, Christy Goncz, Hannah Miller, and Pamela Wright.

Coaches Glenn and Lanier led a basketball clinic earlier in the day for 60 KDES students. The clinic was held outdoors on the new basketball court that was made possible by a donation from the NBA.

The GUCBC is a significant part of Gallaudet's Annual Business Campaign (ABC), which raises money for various projects and programs at the University. This year, once again, the ABC was chaired by Abe Pollin, president of Washington Sports and Entertainment. The 1997 Classic has raised more than \$185,000 so far for renovation of the Gallaudet track, the MSSD Career Center, and for scholarship support.

Topping off the evening was an elegant reception held in the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center to thank the congressional players, corporate sponsors, and friends of the University for their tremendous support of the 1997 Classic.

Dr. Jordan said he was pleased with the results of the Classic. "Everyone had fun and we received excellent publicity this year. More important is the positive impact we made and the many new friends we acquired in the course of this Classic."

See related photos on page 2.

Enrichment Day '97

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as satisfying to the university is the knowledge that it ranks first in graduating African American students who enter medical school.

One important element in Xavier's success in encouraging students to gain interest in science is a genuine commitment on the part of faculty, plus support from administrators, said Garibaldi.

He added that only the best faculty members are allowed to teach freshmen because a successful first year experience is crucial to ensure that students make it through to graduation.

Garibaldi described a number of faculty designed initiatives such as a re-design of all science and math courses so that students receive identical course content, having students learn how to work in groups, and requiring students to meet weekly with advisors to review their academic performance.

The groundbreaking progress that Xavier University has made in preparing students for success in college was expanded on in one of the many concurrent sessions focusing on students and University goals that were held during Enrichment Day.

"Xavier University: strategies for improving scholarship" was led by Dr. Ann Davidson-Powell, a professor in the Biology Department, and Xavier University alumna Take-

isha Charles, who further discussed interdisciplinary and collaborative learning at Xavier University's Center for the Advancement of Teaching.

Charles, now a Johns Hopkins University medical student, discussed Xavier's unique approach to the challenges it faced in recruitment, retention, and teaching.

A description of other concurrent sessions follows:

"Who are the seniors?"—This session discussed the results from the Council on Undergraduate Education's subcommittee on literacy standards' study of Gallaudet students' reading and writing skills and the impact a Gallaudet education has on these skills over time. The presentation was led by Dr. Gina Oliva, associate professor in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, with presentations by Dr. Kenneth Epstein, coordinator of assessment, Dr. Judith Mounty, Powrie V. Doctor Chair of Deaf Studies, and Terry Coyle, director of English Works, all of whom are members of the CUE subcommittee.

Epstein reported that more than half of Gallaudet's graduates completed degree requirements in four years. The present average at U.S. colleges and universities is five years. Coyle's assessment of student writing skills obtained from analyzing written test samples and Mounty's presentation on test results from the Senior Assessment Project (SAP) show that deaf students have the same range of scores as hearing students for whom English was a second language.

Mounty also presented findings on an ongoing study done using an Eng-

lish Language Proficiency Test designed to test receptive skills of American Sign Language and English users. Mounty emphasized what many already know about language learning: that individuals with strong early development in one language are better able to develop skills in a second language. However, the presenters concluded that more needs to be done in this area.

"Learning about language learning: Why is it so hard to learn a new language?"—Three students and a faculty member explored the highs and lows of their learning experiences with ASL and English.

For Dr. Carol Erting, a professor in the Department of Education, and doctoral student Peter Hauser, learning ASL was a sometimes laborious process. Erting said she began learning sign language in college but had little interaction with deaf people until coming to Gallaudet. Her cultural immersion and conversational usage of ASL helped her achieve fluency. For Hauser, learning a new language meant changing attitudes as well. "It took me a long time to pick up that ASL is a language in its own right," he conceded.

Even student Ron Rood, who grew up using both ASL and English fluently, found that taking ASL courses at Gallaudet brought new discoveries. "I thought it was just a language used to communicate," he said, "but I found that it had all the fundamental features" of a real language. Rood and fellow student Melissa Draganac said that positive encouragement at an early age offset any subsequent negative experiences in learning to write English that they encountered in elementary school and high school.

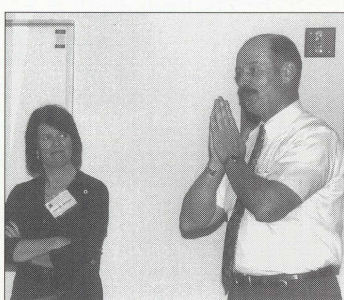
Emphasized was the need to study patterns of ASL and English literacy, and the importance of accepting language learning as an on going process. Susan Mather, an assistant professor in ASL, Linguistics, and Interpretation, stressed the importance of providing University services and resources such as English Works so that students can continue to develop strategies of language learning and use them outside the classroom.

"What's A-RAP? Who are the 'Steamers'?"—Dr. David Pancost, who is coordinating the University's strategic planning process, explained the University's new planning process to achieve its strategic objectives. The name, he explained, is for the 25 faculty and staff serving on the three committees that are each addressing one of the three strategic objectives.

"Team one's e-mail address is STEAM1; team two's is STEAM2; and team three's is STEAM3," Pancost said. "We started calling people on the teams 'Steamers' and it stuck. I think it's a good name because it also makes you think of sturdy, powerful steam engines, which is what our committees have to be in order to accomplish the work before them."

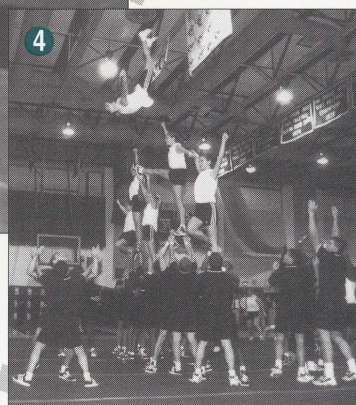
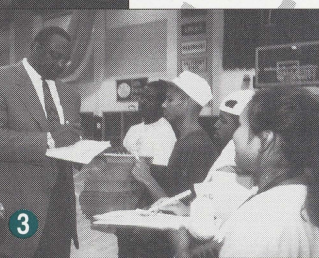
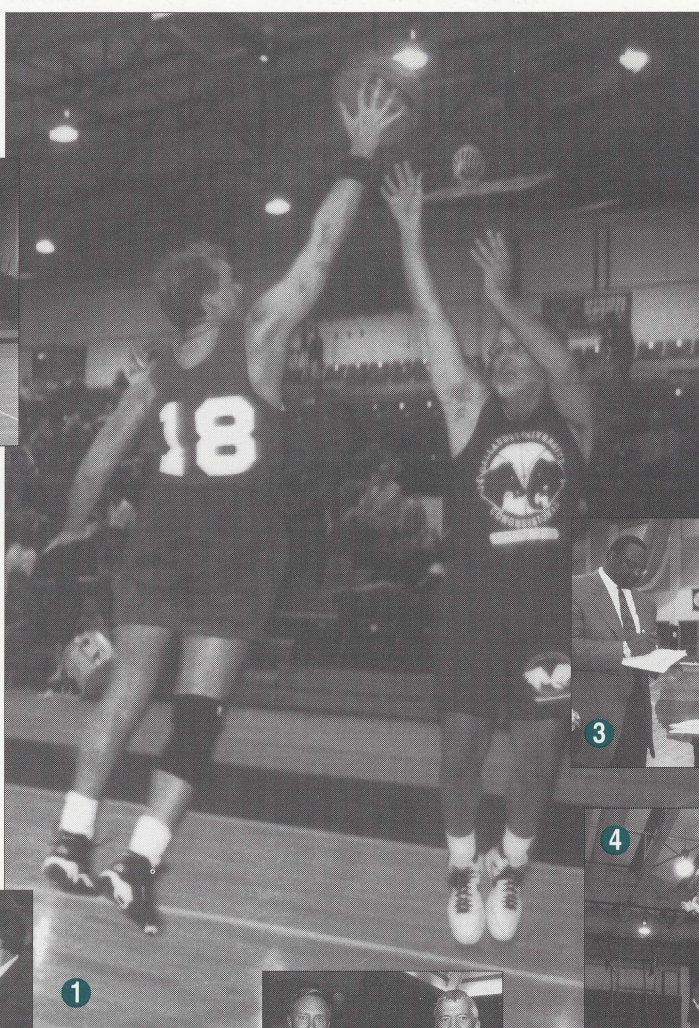
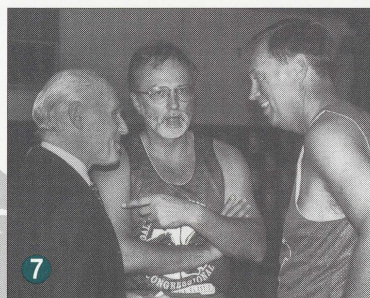
Representatives from the three teams briefly explained the progress their groups have made since A-RAP was launched in August. Rich Pelletier, director of the Department of Athletics, Charles Kelley, outreach specialist in Pre-College National Mission Programs' Office of the Director, Training and Professional Development, and Murray Margolin, planning assistant in the Office of Construction Services, spoke

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Dr. William Marshall and Dr. Catherine Andersen help participants in one of Enrichment Day's concurrent sessions understand what a creed is and moderate a discussion on whether the University should have one.

Gallaudet University Congressional Basketball Classic—a spectacular event!



ON THE GREEN

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1 Congressman Kenny Hulsof, (R-Mo.) blocks a three-point attempt by Congressman David Bonior (D-Mich.) 2 Mike Glenn, the Democrats' celebrity coach, teaches KDES students the fundamentals of basketball on the courts outside the school. 3 Republican celebrity coach Bob Lanier signs autographs for students. 4 The Columbia Union College Acro-Airs give a soaring performance at halftime. 5 President Jordan and his wife, Linda, pose with Congressman Mike Oxley (R-Ohio), who was captain of the Fighting Elephants. 6 Mary Anne Pugin (MAP), director of Alumni Relations, comes up to get Scottie Pippen's autographed jersey that she won in the raffle drawing held at halftime while Mike Kaika, co-chair of the Congressional Basketball Classic, tells her to "take it home!" 7 Bonior (center) chats with Senator Herbert Kohl (D-Wisc.) (left), owner of the Milwaukee Bucks, and Congressman Oxley. 8 President Jordan, flanked by Mike Glenn at far left and Bob Lanier at far right, present the MVP trophies to Congressmen Ron Kind (D-Wisc.) (second from left) and John Thune (R-S.D.).

Stu • dent • sau • rus

(stoo • dant • soar • us) n. 1. a special breed of inquisitive men and women who Gallaudet recruits, retains, and educates. 2. pizza-eaters.

By Teresa Ezzell

Here at Gallaudet, where backpacking in Europe and bicycling across America seem to be the rites of passage among students, Russ West is a typical student.

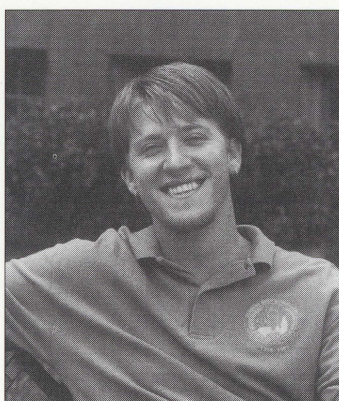
This summer, Russ plans to go to Europe with a friend for three months where he will spend time backpacking, photographing, and enjoying Switzerland's outdoor water activities.

As for biking across America, Russ has that planned for the Summer of '99. "I would like to start in New York and take the northern bike route to the West Coast," he said.

The junior elementary education major also likes to keep busy during the school year. He is currently the photography editor of

the *Tower Clock* yearbook; the moderator for "Speak Out," a forum for students; a member of the Judicial Board; an activities sponsor for MSSD's Athletics Department, supervising high school students during intramural activities; and a member of the Kappa Gamma Fraternity.

"Leadership opportunities at Gallaudet are endless, and these opportunities help me to network and to learn and develop skills that would make me a more effective employee," said Russ. "As a photo editor, I learned how to delegate assignments, coordinate them, and work with my staff. As a Judicial Board member, I learned the different views of the students when working on cases and the importance of maintaining objectivity. As a Kappa Gamma brother,



I gained confidence in my ability to accomplish whatever I set my eyes on."

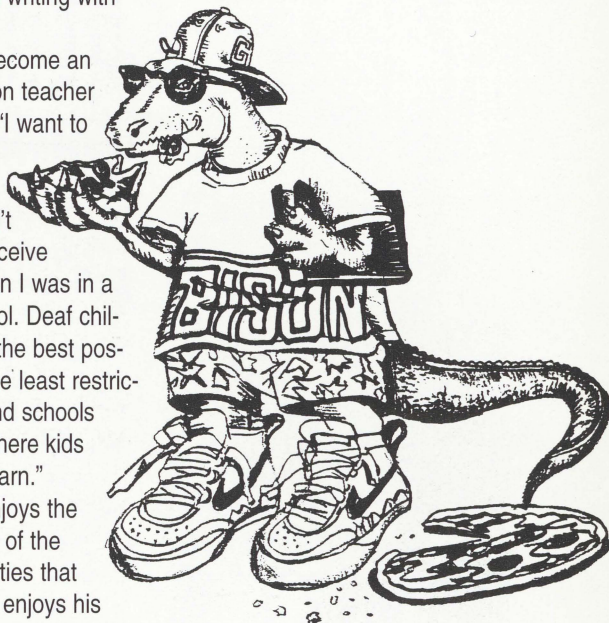
When asked if there is one memory about being a Gallaudet student that he will cherish forever, Russ said it is his experience as a Kappa Gamma brother. "The experience affirmed my identity as an individual," he said. "My brothers in the fraternity are very supportive and give me a lot of encouragement in the area of writing. I had a writer's block, and with the support of my fraternity brothers, I've overcome that, and,

as a result, I am now better able to express myself in writing without worrying."

Russ wants to become an elementary education teacher after he graduates. "I want to help children get an appropriate education," he said. "I don't want deaf kids to receive what I received when I was in a mainstreamed school. Deaf children are entitled to the best possible education in the least restrictive environment, and schools should be a place where kids can have fun and learn."

Russ not only enjoys the educational aspects of the extracurricular activities that Gallaudet offers, he enjoys his classes, too. "I love all the courses here. There are many good professors at Gallaudet," he said.

And, the Kentucky native said he strongly believes that Gallaudet offers the best well-rounded education possible for deaf and hard of hearing students. **G**



PCNMP HAPPENINGS

Wife of Israeli president advises KDES students to make time for reading

By Susan M. Flanigan

Reuma Weizman, wife of Israeli President Ezer Weizman, visited Gallaudet recently during her husband's official visit to Washington.

Weizman's visit was arranged by Donald Ammons, director of the Center for Global Education, and Sharon Hayes, program development specialist at the center, after she expressed an interest in visiting deaf children and their teachers in an elementary school. Weizman volunteers in Israel with "Micha," an organization that educates deaf children from preschool age upwards.

After a welcome from Gallaudet President I. King Jordan and Gallaudet students from Israel Boaz Klachko, a junior majoring in government, and Dina Raevsky, a second-degree senior majoring in finance/international business,

Weizman observed a kindergarten class and the classroom team for Grades 6, 7, and 8.

Weizman watched the kindergarten class intently as teacher Janet Weinstock read aloud the story of the *Big Hungry Bear* to the children gathered in a circle on the floor. Weizman asked questions such as: "Do the children live at the school? Do they come from across the United States?" and, "Do the children use total communication?"

Following the kindergarten visit, Weizman joined the Grades 6, 7, and 8 team for a question and answer session about life in Israel. The students, teachers, and staff had prepared a display for Weizman of a map of Israel and the greeting 'Shalom' in English and in Hebrew. Weizman, who has training as a teacher, pointed out in a good-natured way that the

Hebrew script was missing a vowel and drew in a small line on the sign.

Weizman gave a short introduction, saying first, "I give a million apologies that I can't [use] sign language. I only volunteer in my country. I think that when I go back I will take (sign language) so that I can better dedicate myself." She stressed the need to raise the awareness of deaf children's communication needs in Israel.

Weizman then opened the floor for questions from students. Some of the questions were: Does Israel have schools for deaf students? Do the students sign?, and, Do they have deaf teachers? She replied that Israel has both schools for deaf students and schools that integrate deaf and hearing students. She said that sign language is used but not everyone knows it, and there are deaf teachers in all grades above preschool level.

The question that drew the biggest response, however, was: Do Israeli children play video games? Weizman smiled broadly and exclaimed, "And how!" But she added that video games should not be played at the



expense of reading books. In Israel, Weizman has started a campaign to go back to reading books. She advised the students, "Reading is something no one can take away from you. ... Keep a small corner in your life for reading along with your time for sports and other activities." Weizman received many enthusiastic nods from the teachers, administrators, and other visitors around the room.

At the end of her visit, as the students gathered around her, Weizman expressed a wish that sometime in the future there could be an exchange of Kendall students with deaf students from Israel. **G**

KDES kindergarten students, classroom aide Kellie Valdez (left), teacher Phyllis Ballenger (second from right), and Gallaudet graduate intern Emily Mellgren (right), welcome Reuma Weizman (center), wife of Israeli President Ezer Weizman, to their class.

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on behalf of "Stearns" one, two, and three, respectively.

"It's important for us to remember that this is not going to be a quick process," Pancost said. "It's slow and steady—and it's continuous. The ultimate goal is simple: to help people on campus improve what they're already doing so that Gallaudet becomes better and better."

"Laptops in the college classroom"—Professors Jay Innes and Rich Lytle recently discovered something that profoundly and permanently altered their professional lives—the laptop computer. They shared their enthusiasm for incorporating the compact, lightweight, and versatile computer into the classroom teaching/learning processes.

Specifically, Innes and Dr. Lytle found that the very portable laptop computer is capable of immensely

enhancing how teachers teach and how students learn. They head the School of Education's Laptop Pilot Project, which is one of several projects sponsored by Academic Technology that are aimed at increasing and improving the use of technology in the classroom.

Thirty-two undergraduate education majors in Innes' and Lytle's methodology classes are involved in the pilot project. The students and their teachers were provided with laptops at the start of the semester. Together they are finding out how laptops can make learning faster, easier, and more enjoyable for themselves now and for the students they will be teaching in the future.

"The laptop doesn't replace the teacher, of course," Innes said, "but it can make you a more efficient and effective teacher. It has enormous potential that we have only begun to

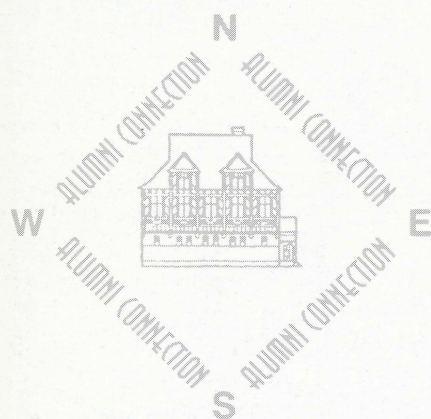
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Deaf Entertainment TV—October 22-28 Gallaudet Cable TV Channel 21

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
22 6 a.m. - 1 p.m. "What's Up, Gallaudet?" and "G-News" reruns 9 p.m. - Deaf Drive-In: <i>Suspect</i>	23 6 a.m. - 1 a.m. "What's Up, Gallaudet?"	24 6 a.m. - 1 a.m. The new "What's Up, Gallaudet?" and the new "G-News"	25 1 p.m. & 9 p.m. Deaf Drive-In: <i>Suspect</i>	26 9 p.m. - Sign Language Plays: <i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	27 6 a.m. - 1 p.m. "What's Up, Gallaudet?" and "G-News" reruns 9 p.m. - Deaf Comedians and Storytellers: "The Magic Pot" and "Village Stew"	28 6 a.m. - 1 p.m. "What's Up, Gallaudet?" and "G-News" reruns 9 p.m. - "Deaf Mosaic" 9:30 p.m. - Deaf Documentaries: <i>Pictures in the Mind</i>

DET is brought to you by the Office of Public Relations, Gallaudet University Library, and Gallaudet Cable TV. It is produced especially for the Gallaudet community and can be found on Channel 21 of Gallaudet's Cable TV system. If you have ideas or comments on shows that you've seen or would like to see, let us know. Contact us via e-mail at GUNews or by phone at X5505.



ALUMNI CONNECTION

License plates allow alumni to show their pride

By Mary Anne Pugin
Living in a car-crazed society, it is interesting to note the various ways people use their cars to make a personal statement.

There are bumper stickers like "Clinton-Gore" that signal the driver's political party affiliation. There are trade oriented stickers like "Printers Do It On Sheets" that leave lots of room for interpretation!

Clues about the personality or lifestyle of the driver next to you are also evident from items dangling from the rear-view mirror. Or window decals, oversized tires, and hood ornaments. How about the fuzzy little thing on top of the antenna?

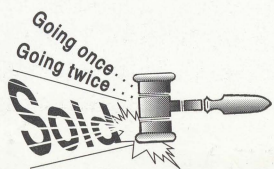
And, of course, there are license plates.

Through a program sponsored by the Alumni Relations Office, alumni who live in Maryland can proclaim their Gallaudet

University affiliation with an organizational license plate. Initiated in 1991 by Robert Weinstock, '77, the GUxxxx license plate is issued in numerical order and includes "Gallaudet Univ Alumni" beneath the tag number.

In appreciation for their many years of support and leadership, plate GU00001 was presented to the late Dr. David ('29) and Polly (E-'36) Peikoff and GU00002 was given to Dr. Jack R. Gannon, '59. Bob Weinstock himself received GU00003, which he later donated to "Ole Jim" when he moved out of state. (NOTE: In case anyone wonders, the author preferred to retain her MAP 71 plates!)

Maryland alumni may apply for a GUxxxx license plate anytime. The minimum fee is \$20, of which \$15 is paid to the Maryland MVA and the difference is donated to the GUAA Elstad Endowment. Forms are available in "Ole Jim."



FREE: Deaf dalmatian, less than one year old, needs loving home w/yard in ASL environment. Call Lucille Dorsey, (202) 529-4562.

FREE: Kitten, 9 months, affectionate, loves children, litter box and litter included, to good home. Call Felicia at (301) 499-2894 (V), or e-mail FADAVIS.

Enrichment Day '97

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tap. It gives students easy access to the wealth of information on the World Wide Web, connects them to e-mail, and permits them to take and store notes quickly."

"There is no going back," Lytle added. "Now that we have this remarkable new teaching tool, I can't imagine not using it. I see a time in the not-too-distant future when the exception will be the teacher or the students that don't use them."

Funding for the Laptop Pilot Project comes from private donations raised by the Division of Institutional Advancement in its Annual Business Campaign, and from the Division of Academic Affairs' Academic Affairs Technology Advisory Committee.

"What is a creed and should Gallaudet have one?"—Numerous religious groups, educational institutions, businesses, and other organizations have adapted statements expressing common goals and values that link the individuals together as a community. At this session, Dr. Catherine Andersen, coordinator of Freshman Studies, Orientation Programs, and Retention, and Dr. William Marshall, chair of the Department of Administration and Supervision, explained the concept of a creed, presented samples of creeds that other groups have adapted, and solicited input from those who attended the session on whether Gallaudet could benefit from its own creed.

One of the sample creeds that many of the attendees seemed to favor was from the University of South Carolina.

Marshall explained that the creed was developed by the university several years ago in the face of a crises that arose from growing hate crimes on the campus. The creed has helped bond the university by exalting the rights, property, and dignity of others; discouraging bigotry; ascertaining concern for others; and promoting personal and academic integrity.

If Gallaudet develops a creed, said Marshall, "it can't be window dressing; this has to come from our hearts, it has to be something we all believe in." He added that before a creed is adapted it would have to be accepted by the entire University community—students, faculty, teachers, staff, the administration, and the Board of Trustees.

The people who attended the session will be apprised of further steps involving the creed, and if a decision is made to proceed with one, they will be asked to participate in its development.

"What becomes of the seniors?"—This session was co-presented by Dr. Thomas Allen, director of the Gallaudet Research Institute, and Dr. Nancy Pollock, director of Academic Advising and the Career Center. Allen's talk centered on the results of a comprehensive alumni survey conducted in 1993. Results show that eight out of 10 alumni are employed. The majority say their studies prepared them adequately for their present jobs, and more than half go on to pursue advanced degrees.

Gallaudet graduates' earnings compare favorably with other college graduates until the highest levels of income, where they drop off. Allen

Dear Aunt Sophie,

Help! My co-worker comes to work and all she does is complain about her family problems. While I sympathize with her, I get tired of her whining every day. Desperately Seeking Relief

Dear DSR,

Unfortunately, some people become so absorbed with their own troubles they can't imagine anyone not sharing their preoccupation. It reminds Aunt Sophie of her double second cousin on her mother's side, Ida Mae. It was as if a cloud of gloom and doom followed her everywhere. Not that she didn't have some real issues with which to deal, but, oh-my, she could turn the most joyous event into a wake. I recall one family wedding where she went up to the happy bride and groom and said something like: "I hope you both have a better marriage that mine. I'd hate to see you go through the years of mental suffering that I had to, blah, blah."

The poor bride was almost in tears by the time I came to the rescue with a well-aimed piece of wedding cake—it hit ol' Ida Mae smack in the kisser. When she asked me why on earth I did such a thing, I told her in no uncertain terms how her constant whining made everyone—even her family—dislike and avoid her. I said she was being selfish, immature, and boring.

First she looked surprised, then

hurt, then I could see her begin to understand the wisdom of my words. It was a mini-miracle.

I later patented my "wedding cake therapy," and today it is incredibly popular among people in the advice business. Indeed, I think it might be just the ticket in the situation you now face with your co-worker. Of course, I don't mean that you should literally sling cake at her, but the next time she accosts you, look her in the eye and tell her: "Look, I'm sorry your husband's hemorrhoids are flaring up again (or whatever the crisis de jour is), but I simply don't want to discuss it. In fact, I don't want to discuss any of your personal problems at work. You're nice person and I hope you win the Lottery some day, but you are making everyone crazy with your sob stories—as if you're the only person in the world with problems. Stop it or you won't have any friends, including me."

(Note to Aunt Sophie readers: If you are uncomfortable sending your requests for advice through e-mail, please do so via campus mail to: Aunt Sophie, PR Office, EMG. The good people there will make sure your letters are delivered to me.)

If you have a burning question that you would like to ask Aunt Sophie, e-mail her at PUBLI-CREL. Be sure you say your question is for Aunt Sophie.

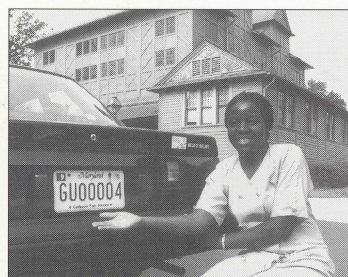
winter of 1994 and again during the spring of 1997. Although the survey was an optional activity, roughly the same number of students filled it out each time—422 in 1994 and 415 in 1997. Also, results show that the demographics of respondents closely parallel that of the current student body.

Students ranked a variety of services and programs in two areas: services, which include cultural, recreational, and support programs, as well as food services, parking, and security; and environment, which includes academic programs, admissions, and financial aid. Some of the programs that gained favor during the three-year gap between the surveys were cultural programs, academics, admissions, and parking. The next step, Pramuk said, is to compare Gallaudet's results with the national norms. He predicts that he'll have these statistics in November.

"How can we better prepare for our senior year?"—This was a panel discussion by seniors who gave advice to underclassmen in the audience about how to make the best use of their time before their senior year.

The seniors generally agreed that it was important to take advantage of career services, to get involved in extracurricular activities, to develop a support system, to take their education seriously, and not to succumb to peer pressure regarding parties and other entertainment. Their last piece of advice to underclassmen was to stay at Gallaudet and to stick with it.

(Note: Katherine DeLorenzo, Roz Prickett, Rosanne Prickett, Mercy Coogan, and Todd Byrd contributed to this article.)



Kubby Rashid, a member of the Class of '90 and an assistant professor in the Department of Business Administration, drives in style with her Gallaudet alumni license plate.

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

(Note: for more information about University athletic events, call the Athletics Department at x5603; for MSSD athletic events, call x5361.)

22-23 Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity Bake Sale, Ely Center

22 Volleyball at Marymount University, 6 p.m.; MSSD JV Football at Quantico, 4:30 p.m.

23-24 Board of Trustees meeting, GUKCC

23 MSSD Volleyball vs. Holton Arms, JV at 4:30 p.m. and Varsity at 5:50 p.m., MSSD Gymnasium; Gallaudet Dance Company performance at a Fairfax, Va., County Government event, 12 p.m., Contact Diane Hottendorf for more information.

24-25 Volleyball at Juniata College Tournament, time TBA

24 Football vs. Fort Meade Air Force, 7:30 p.m., MSSD Football Field

25 Women's Soccer vs. Anne Arundel Community College, 2 p.m., Soccer Field; Men's and Women's Cross Country at Mason-Dixon Conference Championships at Methodist College, time TBA; MSSD Varsity Football at RMA, 3:00 p.m.

26 Women's Soccer vs. Dundalk Community College, 2 p.m., Soccer Field

27-28 Class of 2001 Bake Sale, Ely Center

27 Men's Soccer vs. Marymount University, Capital Athletic Conference Match-up, 3:30 p.m., Soccer Field

28 MSSD JV Volleyball vs. West Virginia School for the Deaf, 4 p.m., MSSD Gymnasium; MSSD Varsity Volleyball vs. Maryland School for the Deaf, 5 p.m., MSSD Gymnasium

Community Events

22 Kennedy Center: Neil Simon's *Proposals*, sign-interpreted performance at 2:30 p.m., (202) 416-8410 (TTY), (202) 416-8400 (V)

23 Publick Playhouse: "Street Sounds: From African Chants to Doo-Wop to Rap" by an acapella quintet, sign-interpreted performance at 10 a.m., (301) 277-0312 (TTY), (301) 277-1710 (V)

26 Ford's Theatre: *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, sign-interpreted performance at 7:30 p.m., (202) 347-5599 (TTY), (202) 638-2367 (V)